

Top Secret



MEMORANDUM

DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

The Situation in Vietnam

DIA REVIEW COMPLETED

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30 July 1967

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Information as of 1600
30 July 1967

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HIGHLIGHTS

There are continuing reports of friction between the supporters of Chief of State Thieu and Premier Ky.

I. The Military Situation in South Vietnam: There was little significant military activity over the weekend except for the reported ambush of elements of a Marine battalion returning from a sweep operation in the southern part of the DMZ (Paras. 1-2). A new North Vietnamese regiment has been reported in the central highlands (Paras. 3-5).

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IV. Other Communist Military Developments: There is nothing of significance to report.

V. Communist Political Developments: There is nothing of significance to report.



I. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. A large number of small-unit contacts were reported in various parts of South Vietnam over the weekend resulting in at least 115 enemy soldiers killed and more than 50 others detained. Friendly casualties were 17 killed and 97 wounded. Large scale military activity was confined to the reported ambush of elements of a Marine battalion in Operation KINGFISHER in the southern half of the DMZ.

2. Press reports indicate that the Marine battalion was ambushed while moving back down the same road they had used last Thursday to enter the southern half of the DMZ. Preliminary reports of Marine casualties for the 10-hour battle showed 23 killed and 119 wounded. Enemy losses are presently unknown, although the press indicates that as many as 40 North Vietnamese soldiers may have been killed and many others wounded.

New NVA Regiment Reported in Central Highlands

3. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] unit arrived in South Vietnam in February 1967 and was assigned to the B-3 Front--the major VC/NVA command in the highlands--in mid-June. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] elements of the B-3 Front, [REDACTED] planned to engage allied forces in the vicinity of the Dak Pek Special Forces Camp. Enemy forces will apparently use the Soviet 122-mm. rocket in their attack. The plan reportedly calls for NVA units to defeat friendly reaction forces dispatched to aid Dak Pek; when this is accomplished, the camp is to be overrun.

4. Enemy forces have been harassing Dak Pek and Dak Seang during the last few days with mortar and recoilless rifle fire. In a 26 July attack on

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Dak Seang, the enemy reportedly used white phosphorous mortar fire for the first time in South Vietnam.

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